Departments/Institutes are supporting various research programmes for improvement and cultivation of ornamentals and aromatic plants in the country including Tamil Nadu. The Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow—a constituent laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has its Field Station at Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu for conducting research on medicinal and aromatic plants including Jasmine. As of now, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has no proposal to set up a research centre in Tamil Nadu.

Science and Technology infrastructure in Universities

4062. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY he pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have launched funds for improvement of science and technology infrastructure in Universities and higher educational institutions/programmes;

(b) it so. the details thereof;

(e) whether such facility has been extended to universities in Tamil Nadu:

(d) if so, the details thereof: and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT) : (a) to (e) Department of Science & Technology has launched the Scheme "Fund for Improvement of S &. T Infrastructure (FIST) in Universities and Higher educational institutions" during the year 2000-2001. The scheme aims at providing basic infrastructure and enabling facilities and environment for strengthening teaching and research and attracting fresh talent. More than 200 Departments in Universities/Colleges and Higher educational institutions have been identified for support: This include 26 departments in 13 universities/colleges and related academic institutions in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Technology parks for women

4063. SHRI K.M. KHAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Govt, have decided to set up more technology parks for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of parks proposed to be set up in the country. State-wise;

(d) the details of technologies that are exhibited in these parks; and

(e) the total amount sanctioned and spent for the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (e) The Government proposes to set up more Women Technology Parks as models for showcasing technologies relevant to rural women. The establishment of Technology Parks is also a part of the activities of the Women Empowerment Year 2001. The Department of Science & Technology and Department of women & Child Development jointly proposed to set up 12 Women Technology Parks in different agro-climatic regions of the country including 3 in the North-Eastern States, to enable rural women to make the best use of proven S&T interventions. An amount of Rs. 445.30 lakhs has been earmarked for this programme over the next three years. The tentative locations of the Women Technology Parks are :

(i) Medak, Andhra Pradesh

(ii) Ranker, Chhaltisgarh

(iii) Palghai. Kerala

(iv) Dewas, Madhya Pradesh

(v) Satara, Maharashtra

(vi) Wardha, Maharashtra

(vii) Jhalawar, Rajasthan

(viii) Ramnathapuram, Tamil Nadu

(ix) Sunderbans, West Bengal

(x) Norlh-Eastern Region

(a) ltanagar. Arunachal Pradesh

(b) Dhemaji, Assam

(c) Tura. Meghalaya

Location specific both farm and non-farm technologies relevant to rural women for income generation as well as drudgery reduction will be exhibited in these Parks. Some of the technology areas will be :

(a) Land based activities—agriculture, horticulture, medicinal plants, bio-farming, cover management, fodder management, handicrafts,

(b) Post harvest technology

(c) Forest based activities

(d) Community and health care/sanitation

(e) Energy conservation

(0 Small scale rural industry based on natural resources (g) Skill upgradation in handicrafts.

Centre for Research and Development of Information Products

4064. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre for Research and Development of Information Products, a constituent establishment of Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, is receiving data from organisations, including that of CSIR.

(b) if so, the names and addresses of above organisations, with nature of data, for the last three years;

(c) the amount of money paid for contributing above data to each organisations, year-wise, during the same period;

(d) the details of information, products released by the Centre, during the same period; and

(e) the budget allocated and the number of staff working in the Centre during the same period, year-wise, category-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Unit for Research and Development of Information Products (URDIP), has collected data from CSIR establishment and the Office of the Patent Information System, Nagpur.

(c) URDIP has paid Rs. 29,966/- to Patent Information System, Nagpur for supply of photocopies of patents during the year 2001-2002.

(d) URDIP has prepared following information products till date :—